

Art Fair “Liste Art Fair Basel 2026”

Solo Presentation of Rikako Kawauchi “Sew”

Booth No.: #76

Public Days: 6/16 (Tue.) - 20 (Sat.) 12-8pm, 6/21 (Sun.) 11am-4pm

VIP Days : 6/15 (Mon.) 11am-6pm

Venue : Messe Basel, Hall 1.1 (Maulbeerstrasse, Riehenring 113, Basel, Switzerland)

WAITINGROOM is pleased to present “Sew,” a solo presentation by Tokyo-based artist Rikako Kawauchi (b. 1990, Tokyo, Japan) at Liste Art Fair Basel 2026 (Booth #76). Since childhood, Kawauchi has been fascinated by food and bodily functions, feeling discomfort toward ingesting, digesting, and excreting. This led her to Claude Lévi-Strauss’s “The Raw and the Cooked” and to expand her line-based practice across painting, drawing, wire, neon, and stone sculpture to examine bodily transformation. Consistently placing “line” at the core of expression, Kawauchi describes her attempt as “capturing elusive bodies and invisible movements of thought within lines.” Her presentation at Liste Art Fair Basel 2026 brings together embroidery, drawing, painting, and sculpture within a single installation. Through the line-based language of embroidery, the presentation explores the boundaries between the interior and exterior of the body, as well as between protection and invasion.



It looks like it still has plenty. 2026, embroidery, thread on fabric, wooden frame, 130.3 x 97 x 5 cm

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About the artist, Rikako Kawauchi

Born in Tokyo in 1990. She completed her graduate studies at Tama Art University, Graduate School of Art and Design, Department of Painting, in 2017. Recent major exhibitions include Rikako Kawauchi x Edward Dwurnik “THE HEAD” (2026, Edward Dwurnik Foundation, Warsaw, Poland), solo exhibition “The Blade of the Forest Within” (2026, Gana Art Hannam / Gana Art Namsan, Seoul, Korea), solo exhibition “Humans and Tigers” (2025, WAITINGROOM, Tokyo, Japan), solo exhibition “The shape of water hardens into stone.” (2025, Kurobe City Art Museum, Toyama), solo exhibition “Inner Vector: 11, 72, 2154” (2025, Beyond Gallery, Taipei, Taiwan), group exhibition “5th Anniversary Exhibition Plastic Utopia: Our New Ecosystem” (2025, Hirosaki Museum of Contemporary Art, Aomori), solo exhibition “Paintings & Drawings – Food, animals, organs, plants, bodies, etc, everything outside me is everywhere in the air. I breathe them in, I breathe them out.” (2024, Van der Grinten Galerie, Cologne, Germany), solo exhibition “Under the sun” (2024, agnès b. Galerie Boutique, Tokyo), group exhibition “A Personal View of Japanese Contemporary Art: Takahashi Ryutaro Collection” (2024, Museum of Contemporary Art Tokyo, Tokyo), solo exhibition “The Voice of the Soul” (2023, ERA GALLERY, Milan), group exhibitions “Body, Love, Gender” (2023, Gana Art Center, Seoul, Korea), group exhibition “WORLDS IN BALANCE: ART IN JAPAN FROM THE POSTWAR TO THE PRESENT” (2023, Okura Museum of Art, Tokyo), and group exhibition “10th Anniversary Exhibition: New Horizon—From History to the Future” (2023, Arts Maebashi, Gunma). She also received the Kenjiro Hosaka Prize at the 1st CAF Award (2014), the SHISEIDO ART EGG Prize at SHISEIDO ART EGG (2015), the Yuki Terasa Prize at the TERRADA ART AWARD 2021, and the Grand Prize (VOCA Prize) at VOCA 2022: The Vision of Contemporary Art—New Perspectives in Painting (2022). Her works are in the collections of 21st Century Museum of Contemporary Art, Kanazawa, Albertina Museum, Hirosaki Museum of Contemporary Art, Arts Maebashi, and Aichi Prefectural Museum of Art, among others.

About the presentation

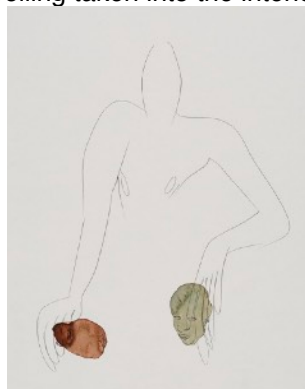
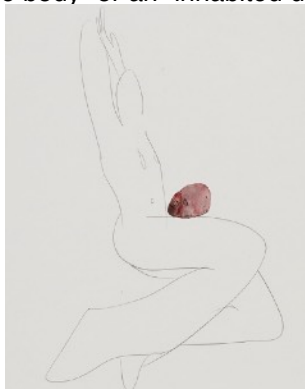
“Sew,” the presentation for Liste Art Fair Basel 2026, creates a fluid space in which the boundaries between the interior and exterior of the body blur ambiguously through the motif of a spider’s web. Centered around the large-scale embroidery work *House of the Mouth* (2026), the presentation organically combines the ball-shaped sculpture *Beating* (2026), the painting *Sew* (2025), and multiple drawings, composing the entire booth as a single installation.

House of the Mouth (2026) a large embroidery based on a spider web motif symbolizing the inseparability of inside and outside. This work presents the spider web as an extension of the body. Spun from threads emerging from the body, spider webs act as home, trap, and site of predation—an externalized organ or internalized shelter. At the same time, within this intricate spider-web structure is embroidered a rich mythological world in which various plants and animals coexist symbiotically. In mythology, the spider appears as a trickster connecting nature and culture. Here, that symbolism becomes a means to traverse such dualities, returning them to a state of fertile ambiguity.

In the sculpture *Beating* (2026), a ball symbolizes movement and life. Drawing on a Chinese belief that life exists only while the ball is bouncing, as well as legends in which an object comes alive when air is breathed into it, this motif reflects cycles of life. For the artist, the ball embodies life, the human figure, the wind, and at the same time overlaps with the heart, the origin of the living, moving body.

Sew (2025) addresses the body’s permeability, depicting how external elements enter bodily circulation. Kawauchi likens sewing—where front and back threads form a single entity through the needle’s passage—to this circulation, mapping it onto the structure of a web.

These works traverse binary oppositions such as inside and outside, body and mind, self and other, and nature and culture, thereby questioning anthropocentric perspectives. Building on the lineage of women artists who have explored the body as a central theme—such as Kiki Smith, Annette Messager, and Louise Bourgeois—this presentation reconsiders the relationship between body and environment from a contemporary perspective, framing the spider’s web as either an “externalized organ of the body” or an “inhabited dwelling taken into the interior.”



Left: grab, 2026, watercolor and pencil on paper, 25.7 × 18.2 cm

Center: Being able to relax with you, 2023, watercolor and pencil on paper, 41 × 31.8 cm

Right: In my hands, 2026, watercolor and pencil on paper, 41 × 31.8 cm

Rikako Kawauchi

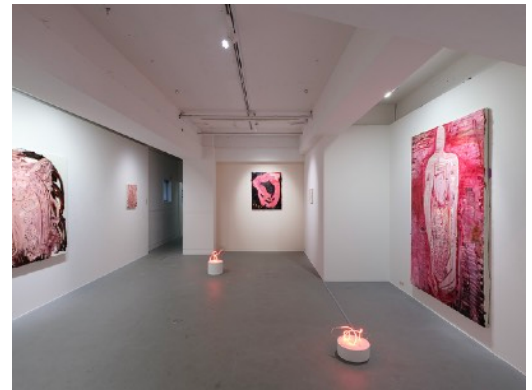
1990 Born in Tokyo, Japan
 2015 Tama Art University, Bachelor's degree, Oil Painting
 2017 Tama Art University, Master's degree, Oil Painting
 Currently lives and works in Tokyo.

SOLO EXHIBITION

- 2026 *The Blade of the Forest Within*, Gana Art Hannam / Gana Art Namsan, Seoul, Korea
Drift of Water, CAPSULE, Tokyo, Japan
- 2025 *Humans and Tigers*, WAITINGROOM, Tokyo, Japan
Jump Over, anonymous bldg., Tokyo, Japan
The shape of water hardens into stone., Kurobe City Art Museum, Toyama, Japan
Inner Vector: 11, 72, 2154, Beyond Gallery, Taipei, Taiwan
Please Don't Disturb, CADAN YURAKUCHO, Tokyo, Japan
- 2024 *Softest chain*, Kamakura Gallery, Kanagawa Japan
Paintings & Drawings - Food, animals, organs, plants, bodies, etc, everything outside me is everywhere in the air. I breathe them in, I breathe them out., Van der Grinten Galerie, Cologne, Germany
Under the sun, agnès b. galerie boutique, Tokyo, Japan
- 2023 *Even the pigments in paints were once stones*, WAITINGROOM, Tokyo, Japan
The Voice of the Soul, ERA GALLERY, Milan, Italy
human closely, Lurf Museum, Tokyo, Japan
line & colors, N&A Art SITE, Tokyo, Japan
- 2022 *Make yourself at home*, Nihombashi Mitsukoshi, Mitsukoshi Contemporary Gallery, Tokyo, Japan
Colours in summer, GINZA TSUTAYA BOOKS, GINZA ATRIUM, Tokyo, Japan
Lines, Van der Grinten Galerie, Cologne, Germany
- 2021 *Empty Volumes*, WAITINGROOM, Tokyo, Japan
afterimage aftermyth, Roppongi Hills A/D Gallery, Tokyo, Japan
- 2020 *drawings*, WAITINGROOM, Tokyo, Japan
drawings, OIL by Bijutsu Techo, Tokyo, Japan
Myth & Body, Nihombashi Mitsukoshi, Mitsukoshi Contemporary Gallery, Tokyo, Japan
- 2018 *human wears human / bloom wears bloom*, Kamakura Gallery, Kanagawa, Japan
Tiger Tiger, burning bright, WAITINGROOM, Tokyo, Japan
- 2017 *Something held and brushed*, Tokyo Myoan Gallery, Tokyo, Japan
NEWoMan ART wall Vol.7 "Easy Chic Pastels", NEWoMan ART wall, JR Shinjuku Station, Tokyo, Japan
- 2016 *Back is confidential space. Behind=Elevator*, WAITINGROOM, Tokyo, Japan
- 2015 *Collector and Artist vol.1*, T-Art Gallery, Tokyo, Japan
shiseido art egg 9: Rikako Kawauchi, Shiseido Gallery, Tokyo, Japan



Sew, 2025, oil on canvas, 45.5 x 53 cm



Solo Exhibition "Humans and Tigers" (2025, WAITINGROOM, Tokyo) Installation View
 Photo by Shintaro Yamanaka (Qsyum!)

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2026 *DONATED WITH LOVE*, ALBERTINA KLOSTERNEUBURG, Vienna, Austria
Collection 2026, Hirosaki Museum of Contemporary Art, Aomori, Japan
 Rikako Kawauchi x Edward Dwurnik, *THE HEAD*, Edward Dwurnik Foundation, Warsaw, Poland
Micro Salon, CADAN OTEMACHI, Tokyo, Japan
- 2025 *Plastic Love*, Galerie Marguo, Paris, France
Arts Maebashi Recent Acquisitions / Collection+ Women Artists, Each Her Own World, Arts Maebashi, Gunma, Japan
5th Anniversary Exhibition Plastic Utopia: Our New Ecosystem, Hirosaki Museum of Contemporary Art, Aomori, Japan
Freedom!: Towards A World Filled with Diverse Happiness and Hope, Dai-chi Life Lobby, Tokyo, Japan
A Glimpse of the S.F Collection vol. 2, N&A Art SITE, Tokyo, Japan
- 2024 *A Personal View of Japanese Contemporary Art: Takahashi Ryutaro Collection*, Museum of Contemporary Art Tokyo, Tokyo, Japan
Nurturing Nodes in the Nook of an Odd Sock, ART GALLERY MIYAUCHI, Hiroshima
collection #08, rin art association, Gunma
Fellow Travelers of the Canvas—A Perspective on Contemporary Art of Japan from the Takahashi Ryutaro Collection, Yamagata Museum of Art, Yamagata
SPRING SHOW, WAITINGROOM, Tokyo, Japan
From the museum collection 2023: fourth period, Aichi Prefectural Museum of Art, Aichi, Japan
- 2023 *The Hints: 12 Perspectives from which we can discern the present and the future*, Sumitomo Mitsui Banking Corporation East Building Rising Square 1F Earth Garden, Tokyo, Japan
Body, Love, Gender, Gana Art Center, Seoul, Korea
WORLDS IN BALANCE: ART IN JAPAN FROM THE POSTWAR TO THE PRESENT, Okura Museum of Art, Tokyo, Japan
Arts Maebashi 10th Anniversary Exhibition "New Horizon—From History to the Future", Arts Maebashi, Gunma, Japan

- 2023 *TRANSFORMATIONS: MATERIAL AND DISSOLUTION*, Van der Grinten Galerie, Germany
Paper Whispers, Schönfeld Gallery, Brussels, Belgium
Good Morning Japan, Nassima Landau Art Foundation, Tel Aviv, Israel
VOCA 30 YEARS STORY / KOBE, Hyogo Prefectural Museum of Art Branch Haradanomori Gallery, Hyogo, Japan
SPRING SHOW, WAITINGROOM, Tokyo, Japan
From the museum collection 2022: third period, Aichi Prefectural Museum of Art, Aichi, Japan
- 2022 *OKETA COLLECTION: YES YOU CAN, WHAT MUSEUM*, Tokyo, Japan
OKETA COLLECTION: THE SIRIUS, Spiral Garden, Tokyo, Japan
VOCA 30 Years Story / Tokyo, The first floor lobby of the Dai-ichi Life Group Hibiya Head Office, Tokyo, Japan
VOCA 2022, The Ueno Royal Museum, Tokyo, Japan
SPRING SHOW, WAITINGROOM, Tokyo, Japan
- 2021 *TERRADA ART AWARD 2021 Finalists Exhibition*, Warehouse TERRADA G3-6F, Tokyo, Japan
Abstraction by CADAN, Isetan Shinjuku Store Main Building 6F art gallery, Tokyo, Japan
Viewing Room Exhibition, WAITINGROOM, Tokyo, Japan
- 2020 *-Inside the Collector's Vault, vol.1-*, WHAT MUSEUM, Tokyo, Japan
 10TH, WAITINGROOM, Tokyo, Japan
Input / Output, GINZA TSUTAYA BOOKS GINZA ATRIUM, Tokyo, Japan
Blossoming of individuality Post-Isaku generation, people who left the Bunka Gakuin from Showa to Heisei, Musee Le Vent, Karuizawa, Nagano, Japan
Spinner Markt, Spiral Garden, Tokyo, Japan
Viewing Room Exhibition, WAITINGROOM, Tokyo, Japan
- 2019 *Photo, 3F/3kai*, Tokyo, Japan
drawings, Gallery Koyanagi, Tokyo, Japan
- 2018 *Museum of Together - Circus*, Shibuya Hikarie 8/COURT, Tokyo, Japan
- 2017 *spiral take art collection 2017 "SHU SHU SHU SHO"*, Spiral Garden, Tokyo, Japan
NEWSPACE, WAITINGROOM, Tokyo, Japan
Museum of Together, Spiral Garden, Tokyo, Japan
Joint Graduation Exhibition of 5 Art Universities in Tokyo, The National Art Center Tokyo, Tokyo, Japan
- 2016 *Stereotypical*, Gallery PARC, Kyoto, Japan
- 2015 *Dead Henge / Aesthetic*, HIGURE 17-15 cas, Tokyo, Japan
- 2014 *The 1st CAF Award - Winning Award Exhibition*, TABLOID GALLERY, Tokyo, Japan
That I shall say goodnight till it be tomorrow, Shinjuku Ophthalmologist (Ganka) Gallery, Tokyo, Japan
- 2013 *TOTSU Exhibition*, TKP Theater Kashiwa, Art Line Kashiwa 2013, Chiba, Japan
Home Made Family, CASHI Refregilater, Tokyo, Japan
Sleep No More, Tama Art University Art Festival, Tokyo, Japan
- 2012 *OTHER PAINTING XI*, Pepper's Gallery, Tokyo, Japan
TOTSU Exhibition, Sogo Kashiwa, Art Line Kashiwa 2012, Chiba, Japan
Donuts k, Tama Art University Art Festival, Tokyo, Japan

AWARDS

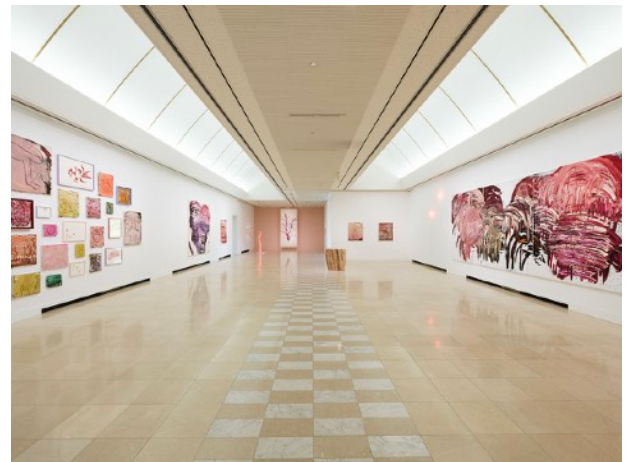
- 2022 VOCA AWARD 2022
 2021 TERRADA ART AWARD Finalist, Yuki Terase Award
 2015 shiseido art egg AWARD
 2014 The 1st CAF Award, Kenjiro Hosaka Award
 Monex, Inc. ART IN THE OFFICE 2014

PUBLIC COLLECTION

- 21st Century Museum of Contemporary Art, Ishikawa
 ALBERTINA Museum, Vienna, Austria
 Hirosaki Museum of Contemporary Art, Aomori
 Arts Maebashi, Gunma
 Sumitomo Mitsui Banking Corporation, Tokyo
 Aichi Prefectural Museum of Art, Aichi
 Dai-ichi Life Insurance Company, Tokyo
 Takahashi Ryutarou Collection, Tokyo
 Monex, Inc., Tokyo

ARTIST WEBSITE

<http://rikakokawauchi.com>



Solo Exhibition "The shape of water hardens into stone."
 (2025, Kurobe City Art Museum, Toyama) Installation View
 Photo by Shintaro Yamanaka (Qsyum!)

***Inquiry about the exhibition and artist**

WAITINGROOM (Owner & Director: Tomoko Ashikawa)
 Address: 1F-2-14-2 Suido, Bunkyo-ku, Tokyo 112-0005
 Hours: Wed. to Sat. 12-7pm Sun. 12-5pm
 *Closed on Mon. Tue. and National Holidays
 Tel : +81-3-6304-1010 email: info@waitingroom.jp
 Website : <http://waitingroom.jp>